## Comment

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The year 2023 marks the 130th anniversary of events formative to the mission of the Evangelical Covenant Church. The year the cornerstone was laid in the building now known as Old Main on Foster and Kedzie was 1893, the same year the Covenant moved its school from Minneapolis (started in 1891) to Chicago. At that time during the Colombian Exposition a few miles south, representatives of the Covenant attended and presented at the World's Parliament of Religion, a milestone in what would become a global interfaith movement. In this issue, we proudly present four articles on perspectives of interfaith understanding, with historical and aspirational links to the Evangelical Covenant Church. Writing as a reflective practitioner with years of experience in several countries, Covenanter Rev. Dr. Andrew Larsen shares his interfaith journey in "The Missing Peace and Our Muslim Neighbor: Reconciling with Theological Parochialism." Director of University Ministries at North Park University Anthony Zamblé invites a rethinking of how indigenous faiths can be viewed in his article, "A Reconstruction of African Religion through Adinkra Symbology." From my personal interest and participation with interfaith activities, I present "Up from the Ashes: the SEMC in Global Dialogue," which includes a description of the events leading up to the Parliament of World's Religions in 1893, how the Covenant was involved, and the full text of the presentation given by David Nyvall at that event. Rounding out this collection, Covenanter and active advocate in this area Kaleb D. Nyquist presents "The Parliament of the World's Religions and the Work of Creation Care: A Pragmatic Apologetic for Interfaith Engagement in Covenant Perspective." You will also find reviews of several recent publications that we highly recommend.

Many people participated in making this issue possible. First of all, we thank God for the visionary leaders of the past who in 1893 considered it part of the mission of the young immigrant denomination called the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant to participate in the World's Parliament of Religion, encouraging the few English speakers to participate on a wider platform. This legacy is one that we build upon today as the Covenant grows into the global mosaic where more and more voices know they belong together. Thanks to Kaleb Nyquist for the invitation to bring North Park Theological Seminary back into the dialogue with other religions at the 130th anniversary held in August this year. The event was especially meaningful for all of us who are educators and learners. Blessings to my brother Tony Zamblé for your work and global vision that impacts North Park University and myself, widening our vision to what Sankofa can be. Thanks to Andy Larsen for your gentle, humble spirit to provoke the Covenant to love and good works among our various faith traditions. Special thanks to William Barnett for his many years as books editor for the Covenant Quarterly. Your coordination efforts and efficient communications have been very much appreciated and will be missed. We are grateful to God for you. Most important, thanks to you, the reader, who will allow God's Spirit to use the words from these pages in your ministry to build, in the style of Matthew 7:24, constructively upon them.